REMARKS:

By this Preliminary Amendment, the Specification has been amended to include reference to the parent application, to which this application claims priority to and claims 1-8 have been canceled.

An early examination and allowance of this application are solicited.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO:

EV321705732US

Respectfully submitted,

March 1, 2004

Gerald P. Parsons Reg. No. 24,486 Date

PARSONS HSUE & DE RUNTZ LLP

655 Montgomery Street, Suite 1800 San Francisco, CA 94111

(415) 318-1160 (main)

(415) 318-1163 (direct)

(415) 693-0194 (fax)

Attorney Docket No.: SNDK.304US1 Express Mail No.: EV321705732US Application No.: Unassigned